

ELECTION WITH TRAVERSE

This is in response to the Office Action dated January 24, 2008 in which the Examiner required a restriction to one of the following inventions:

Group I: Claims 1-3, drawn to a bipolar type semiconductor device; and

Group II: Claims 4-9, drawn to a process for manufacturing a bipolar type semiconductor device.

Applicants hereby provisionally elect for further prosecution the invention of Group I, covering claims 1-3, drawn to a bipolar type semiconductor type. Applicants make this election with traverse.

Applicants reserve the right to file at a later time a divisional application directed to the non-elected claims 4-9.


Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.48(b), there is no change in inventorship as a result of this Election.

TRAVERSE

Applicants respectfully traverse the restriction requirement on the grounds that base process claim 4 has been amended herein to include the limitation of semiconductor device claim 1 that the surface roughness Rms of the surface of the silicon carbide substrate on which epitaxial growth is carried out is in the range of 0.1 to 0.6 nm. Hence, there is clear unity of invention between device claim 1 and process claim 4. The claims of Groups I and II are clearly related since the product made by the process of claims 4-9 is the same as claims 1-3. The Examiner's reconsideration and withdrawal of the restriction requirement are respectfully requested. Examination on the merits of claims 1-9 is deemed proper in view of the present amendment.

Respectfully submitted,

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